

FHWA Federal Update

2006 International Traffic Records Forum

July 30 – August 3, 2006

Dave Smith

Senior Safety Program Manager

Office of Safety

My Agenda Topics

- **Highway Safety in the U.S.**
- **Being Data-Driven**
 - **National Level**
 - **State / Local Level**
- **SAFETEA-LU Perspectives**
 - **New and Expanded Programs**
 - **Impact on Safety Information Systems**

FHWA AND SAFETY

- Safety is a Top Priority in FHWA
- “In safety, we’re absolutely not where collectively we want to be. With more than 43,000 Americans losing their lives on the roads each year, “It’s a very sad statistic.”

Cost of Motor Vehicle Crashes - 2000

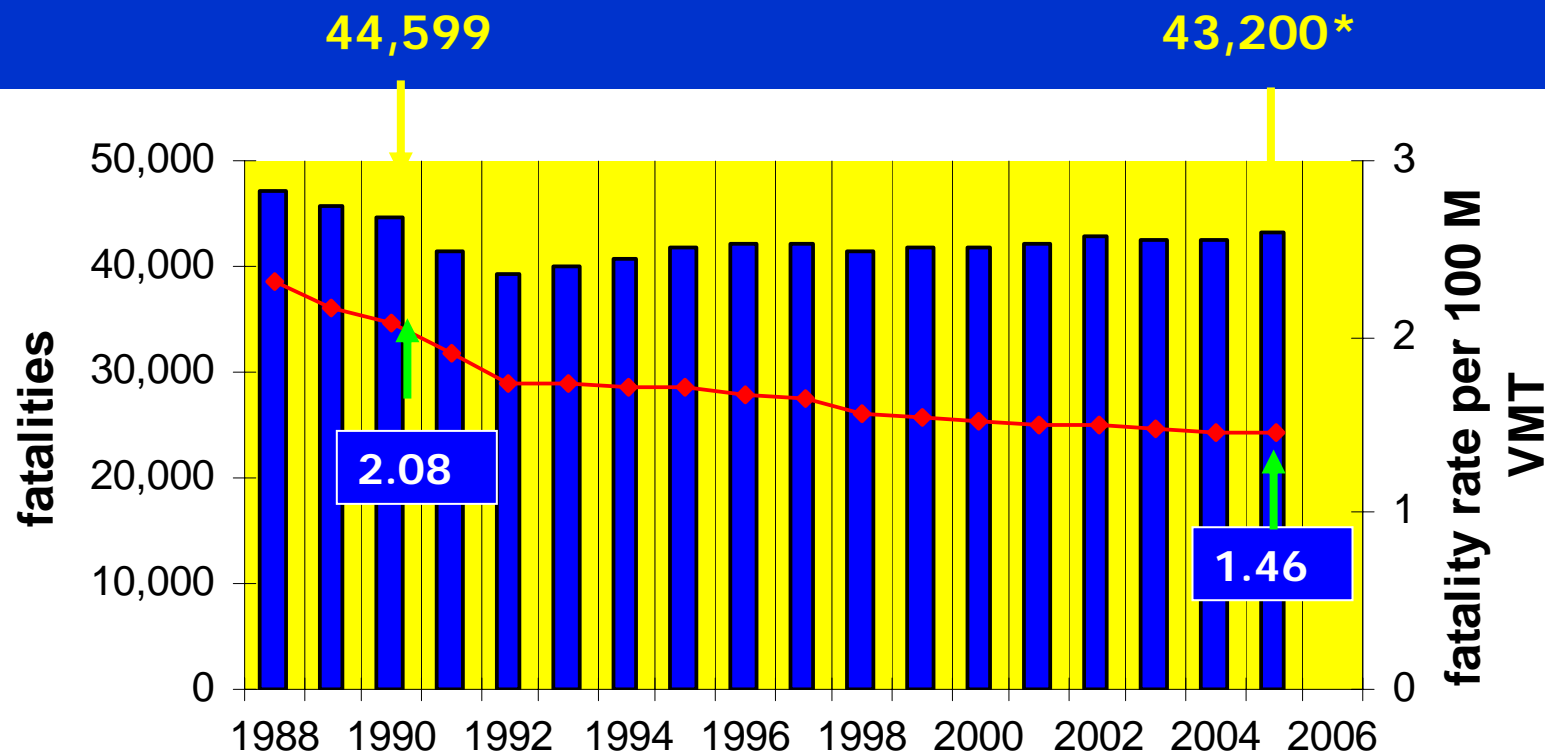


- Total - \$230.6 B/ yr.
- Highlights
 - Non use of belts -\$26 b
 - Impaired driving - \$51 b
 - Speed-related - \$40 b

Human “Cost” of Highway Crashes

- Leading Cause of Accidental Death in US
- Leading Cause of Death of Young Americans
 - 1 out of every 4 crashes

Bad News: Highway Fatalities in 2005 Highest Since 1990; and Rate Is going in Wrong Direction



* NHTSA FARS est.; as of 4/2006

Partnering to Achieve Highway Safety Goals

**National Entities – Common Goal of
1.0 Fatalities / 100M-VMT by 2008**

- **US DOT: NHTSA, FHWA, FMCSA**
- **AASHTO**
 - **A Number of Member States Advancing**
- **GHSA**
- **AAMVA**
- **IACP**

Looking at the Data

Where Are the Problems?

Nationally, Crashes with Fatalities Feature:

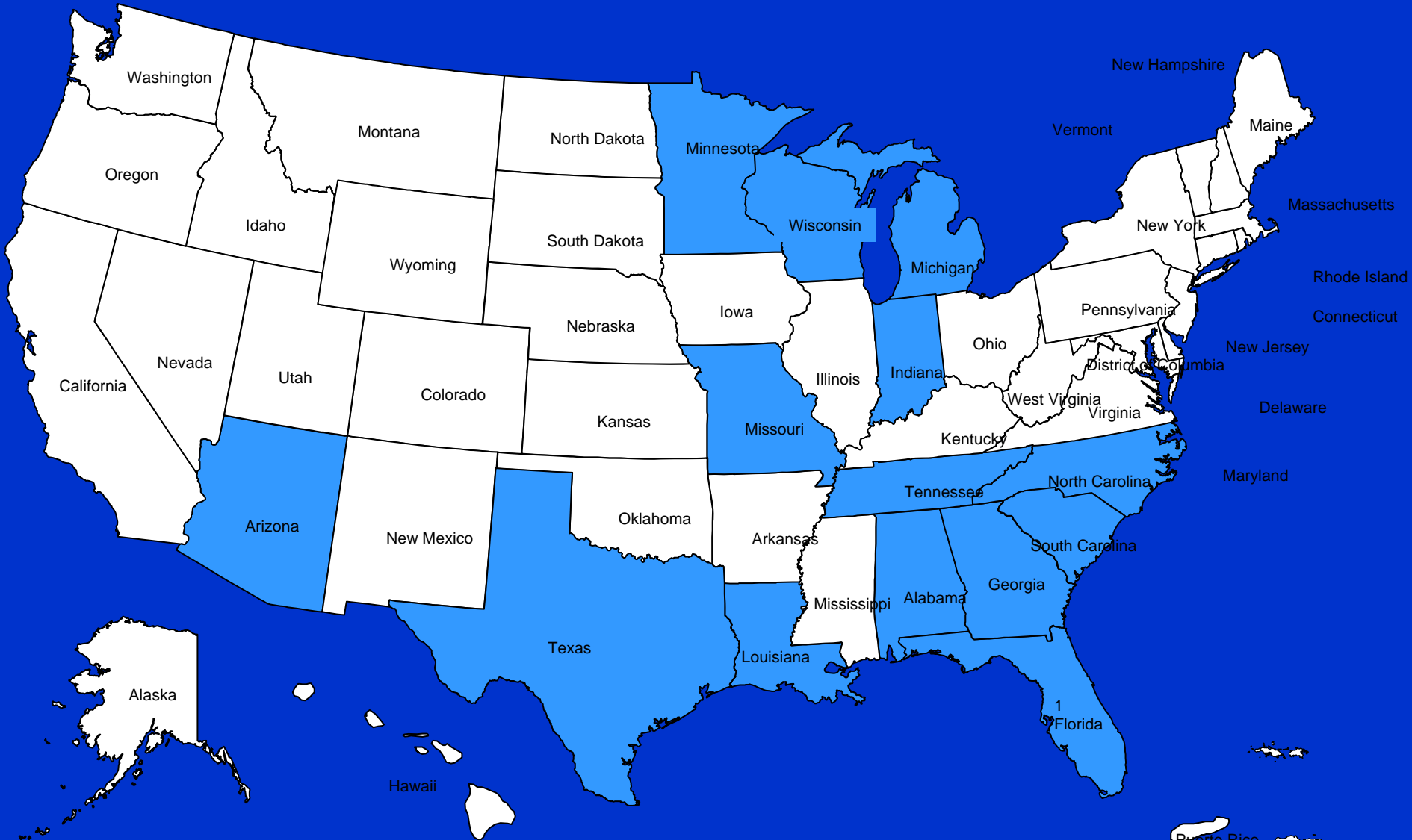
- **Roadway Departure - 60 %**
- **Alcohol Involved - 39 %**
- **Unrestrained - 30%**
- **Intersections - 21 %**
- **Pedestrian - 11 %**

(2004 FARS Data)

FHWA's *Vital Few* Safety Topics

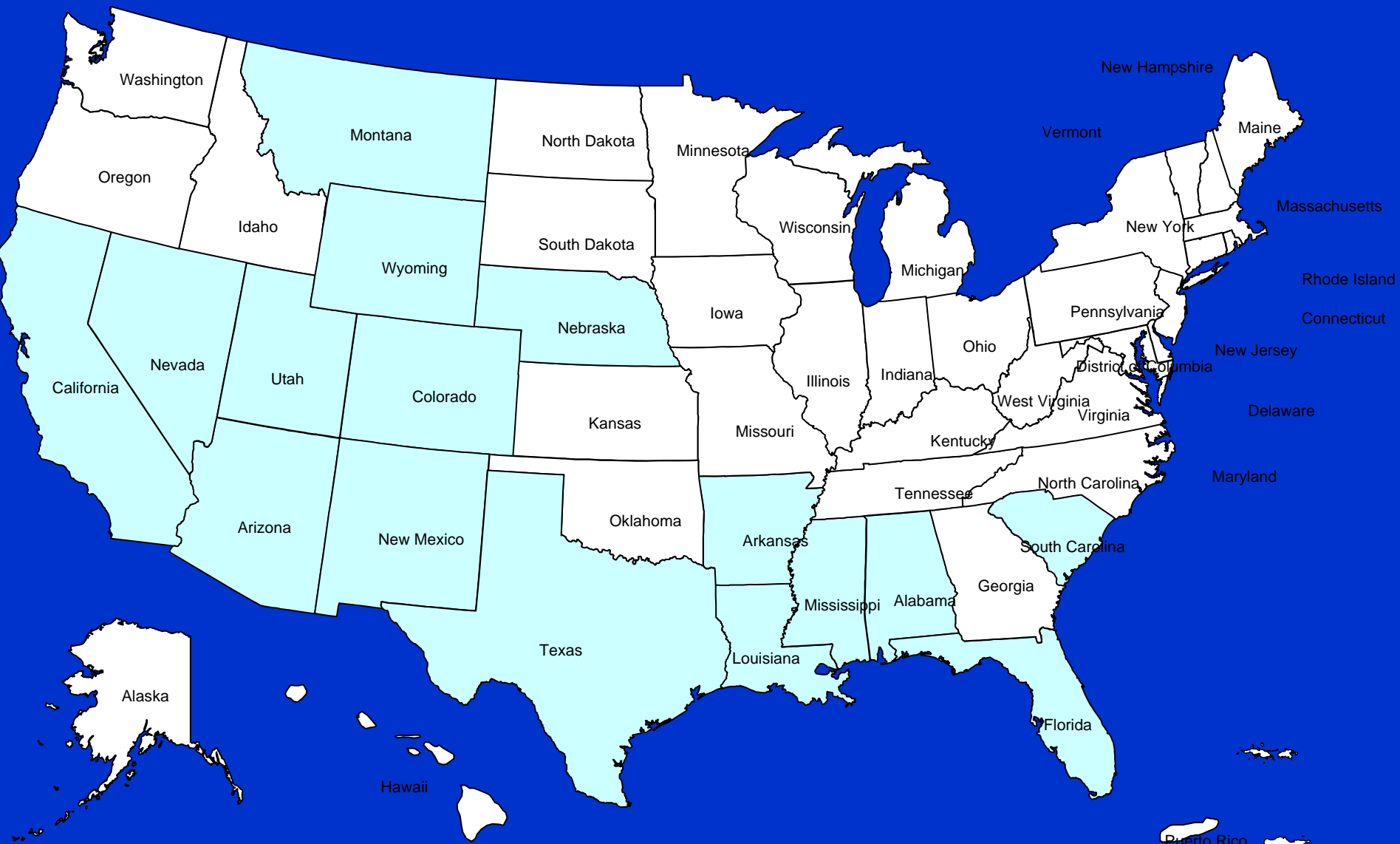
- **State Strategic Safety Plans**
- **Safety Belts (support NHTSA Lead)**
- **Reduce Roadway Departure Crashes**
 - **Keep Drivers on the Road**
 - **Minimize Harm When They Leave the Road**
- **Improve Intersection Safety**
- **Improve Pedestrian Safety**

FY 2006 Safety: Intersection States



2002 Intersection Fatalities over 175 and rate per population above national average
14 States

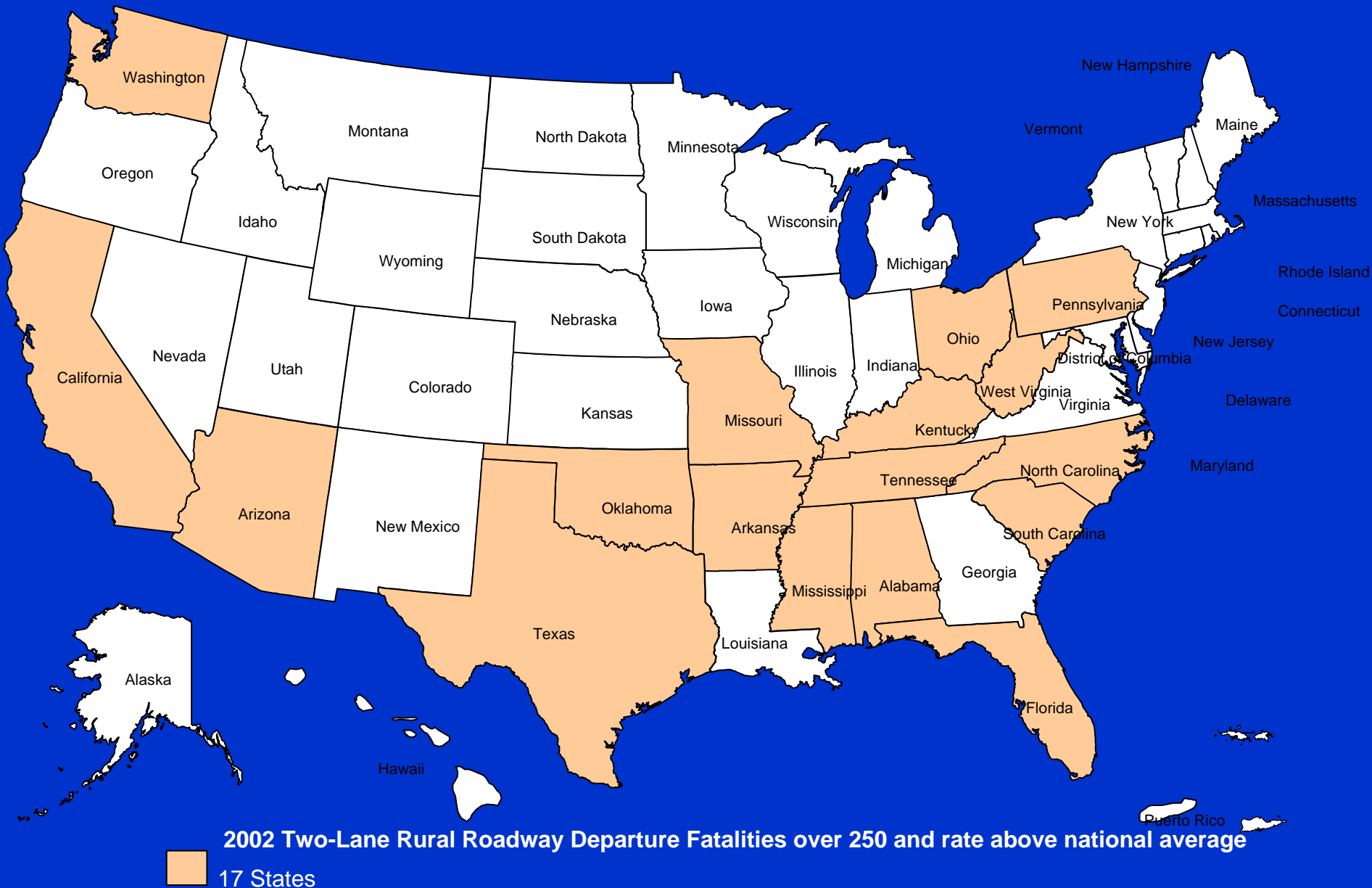
FY 2005 & 2006: Interstate Rural Roadway Departure Safety Focus States



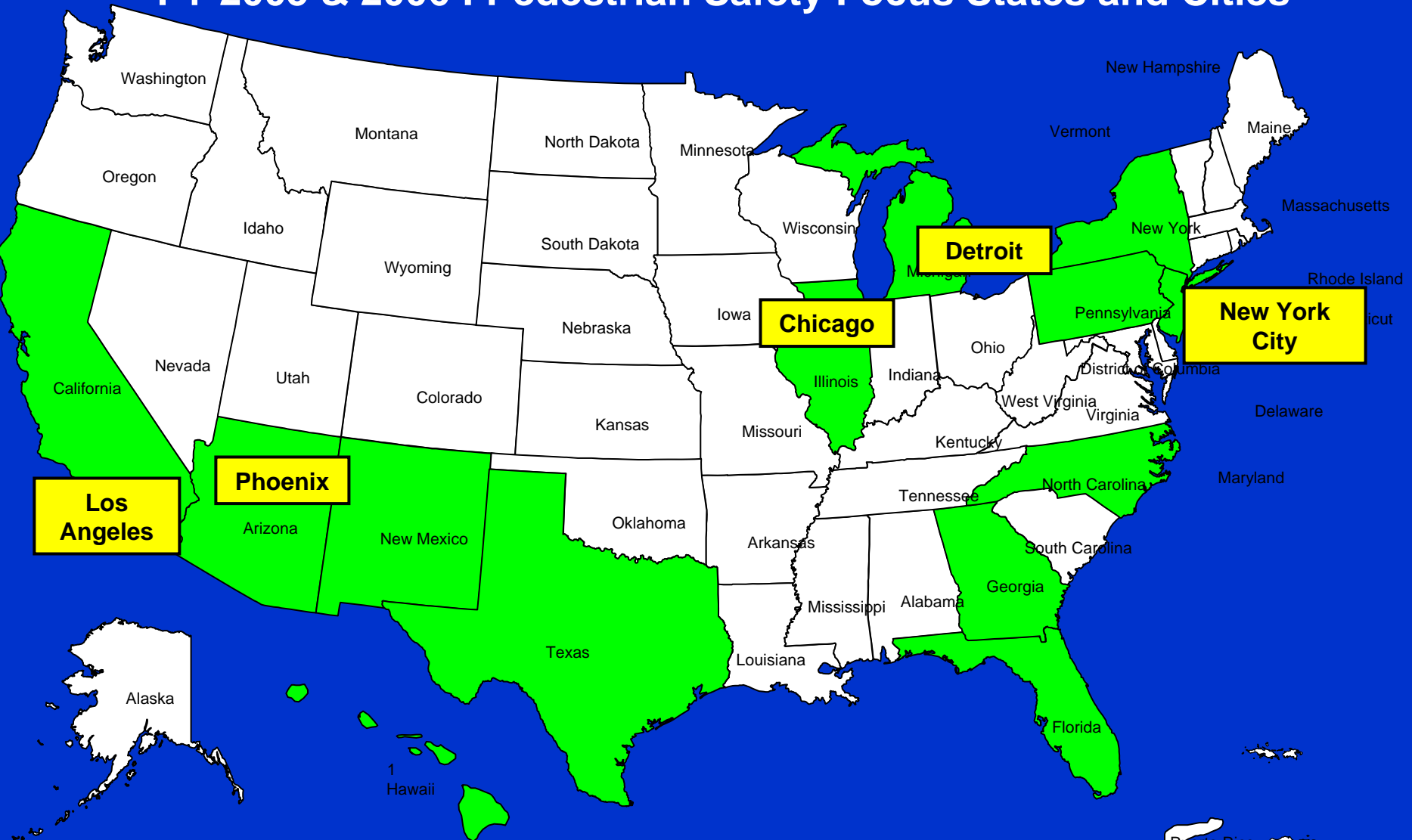
2002 Interstate Rural Roadway Departure Fatalities over 30, and rate above national average

 16 States

FY 2005 & 2006 : Two-Lane Rural Roadway Departure Safety Focus States



FY 2005 & 2006 : Pedestrian Safety Focus States and Cities



States with over 150 Pedestrian Deaths or fatality rate above 2.5 per 100K population



13 States

SAFETEA-LU

Key Highway Safety Provisions

- **New “Core” Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP), doubling safety funds from TEA-21**
- **Strategic Highway Safety Plans**
- **Flexibility**
- **Safety Set Asides**
- **Reporting Requirements**

Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP)

Purpose:

To achieve a significant reduction in
traffic fatalities and serious injuries on
public roads



Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP)

- New “Core” Program
- \$5.06 Billion over 4 years (FY06 – FY09)

Fiscal Year	2006	2007	2008	2009
Authorization	\$1,236 M	\$1,256 M	\$1,276 M	\$1,296 M

- Set Asides
 - Railway Highway Crossings - \$220 M/Yr
 - High Risk Rural Roads - \$90 M/Yr



Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP)

To obligate HSIP funds, States must:

- **Develop and implement a State Strategic Highway Safety Plan**
- **Produce a program of projects or strategies**
- **Evaluate the plan on a regular basis**
- **Submit an annual report to the Secretary**

HSIP Flexibility

- A State may use up to 10% of HSIP funds to carry out other safety projects identified in the SHSP
- The State must certify that:
 - The State has met it's needs railway-highway
 - The State has met it's infrastructure safety needs relating to highway safety improvement projects



Strategic Highway Safety Plans (SHSP)

- **Developed by DOT after Consultation with Prescribed Safety Stakeholders**
- **Analyze and Make Effective Use of Crash Data**
- **Addresses 4 E's plus Management & Operations**
 - **Prioritize Efforts**
 - **Avoid Redundancy**
 - **Leverage Resources**
- **Considers Safety Needs on All Public Roads**
- **Approved by State Governor or Responsible State agency**

Involving All Safety Stakeholders

- ☐ Department of Motor Vehicles
- ☐ Fire and Rescue Community
- ☐ Governor's Highway Safety Office
- ☐ Highway Safety Advocates
- ☐ Insurance Industry
- ☐ Judicial Community
- ☐ Law Enforcement Community
- ☐ Motor Carrier Agencies
- ☐ Municipal Planning Organizations
- ☐ Public Health Agencies
- ☐ State Department of Transportation
- ☐ State and Local Transportation Agencies
- ☐ Railroad Community

Safety Information Systems

Key Concepts to Include

- General: Policy, Data Systems & Linkages, Analysis and Reporting
- Crash Data: Collection and Accessibility of Routine & Special Traffic Crash Data
- Roadway & Traffic Data: Travel Lanes, Appurtenances, Traffic Control, Structures, Travel Volumes, Types of Vehicles, Horizontal & Vertical Alignment, etc.
- Other
 - Driver Information Systems
 - Enforcement
 - Medical
 - Adjudication

State Safety Information Systems – A Critical Need

- **Data System Quality Measures**
 - Complete
 - Accessible
 - Timely
 - Accurate
 - Compatible
 - Integrated
- **Information Analysis Capability**
 - Identify Problems
 - Develop Effective Countermeasures
 - Evaluate Safety Benefits Over Time – “Saving Lives”

Working Together at the Federal Level with Data

- FHWA is a member of National TRCC
- FHWA participates in State traffic records assessments
- FHWA assists States in developing their traffic records strategic plans

Working Together (Continued)

- FHWA collaborating with other modes to develop a safety data improvement workshop
- FHWA with other DOT partners contribute resources to Annual Traffic Records Forum
- FHWA includes in its performance plan State Data Improvement measures

an Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials.
police car computers used to speed crash information into state traffic data systems.

United States Government Accountability Office

How can you help?

- **Understand that improving safety is ...**
 - Improving driver behavior
 - Improving Infrastructure
 - Improving Data
- **Know it's about the 4 E's**
- **Know where your problems are**
 - What does the data say
 - How does it compare
 - What can you do about it

How can you help?

- Every decision you make can impact safety
- Even “No decision” is a decision
- Be a champion for safety

In the End, it's *NOT* About Numbers...

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- 1 fatality every 12 minutes
 - 1 injury every 11 seconds
 - 1 crash every 5 seconds

It's About People

FHWA Federal Update

Questions?

David Smith

david.smith@fhwa.dot.gov